



Iowa Department of Revenue

Current Issues Outline

Electronic Filing and eServices

- ❑ Ranked first in percentage of income tax returns filed electronically for second year in a row
- ❑ Estimate 60 percent of income tax returns will be filed electronically in 2004
- ❑ Over two-thirds of business tax applications filed electronically
- ❑ Over 90 percent of respondents indicate that based on their past experience, they will use additional applications if created and offered by IDR
- ❑ Wide range of services offered including registrations for EFT payment of taxes, ordering and/or downloading tax forms, checking on status of refunds, and receiving information through Information Push Program

Business E-file

- ❑ New initiative to encourage electronic filing and payment of business taxes (sales/use, withholding and related taxes)
- ❑ Provides taxpayers and tax preparers with online applications that will improve accuracy of filing while providing capabilities to file on a 24/7 basis
- ❑ Offers benefits in meeting e-file requirements of the streamlined sales tax project

Streamlined Sales Tax Project

- ❑ National effort to bring uniformity and simplicity to state sales tax systems
- ❑ Collection of sales tax on remote sales
- ❑ Iowa passed conforming legislation in the 2003 General Assembly
- ❑ Iowa Streamlined Sales Tax Advisory Council actively fulfilling its charge

Compliance

- ❑ Goal is education and information to promote voluntary compliance
- ❑ Self-help options to enhance customer services
- ❑ Enforcement presence to ensure compliance
- ❑ Currently return over \$8 for every \$1 spent

Central Collections

- ❑ Goal is to be the collector of choice for all state government
- ❑ In addition to tax debt, the unit collects past due accounts for the Judicial Branch, Child Support Recovery Unit, and College Student Aid Commission
- ❑ In FY03, the unit reported collections of \$36.8 million; FY04 collections projected at \$41 million

Tax Research and Analysis

- ❑ Enhance support for Revenue Estimating Conference
- ❑ Reengineer/streamline quarterly, annual statistical reports and fiscal impact estimates
- ❑ Review state tax structure and develop comparison with surrounding states
- ❑ Analyze federal tax issues and impact on Iowa

Property Tax

- ❑ Actively involved in multiple property tax initiatives
- ❑ Providing staff direction for Property Tax Implementation Committee